

VZCZCXRO1428
OO RUEHLH RUEHPW
DE RUEHKP #0034 0340647
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 030647Z FEB 09
FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0899
INFO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 0363
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0206
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0249
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 1792
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 2643
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 4526
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCNFB/FBI WASHDC PRIORITY
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

UNCLAS KARACHI 000034

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [ASEC](#) [PTER](#) [PGOV](#) [UNHCR](#) [PK](#)
SUBJECT: BALOCHISTAN - AMERICAN UNHCR OFFICIAL KIDNAPPED

REF: KARACHI 26

¶1. (SBU) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Quetta Office Director John Solecki was abducted near his residence in Quetta by armed attackers at around 9:15 AM on the morning of February 2. Solecki, a U.S. citizen, was leaving for work when assailants fired upon his vehicle, mortally wounding his driver. The driver died before he could speak with police.

¶2. (SBU) Quetta Police Superintendent told Post that police teams have cordoned off the area and are conducting search operations. He added that, thus far, police have not received any claims of responsibility. (Note: RSO sources said that police did not arrive until 15 minutes after the incident took place. End note.) This is the latest in a series of high-profile violent acts in Quetta (reftel).

¶3. (SBU) Karachi RSO sources told Post that police have not yet identified the culprits, but believe a terrorist group is responsible. Quetta police claimed that they provided security for Solecki, but he did not like security protection on his drive from home to work.

FAKAN